

Ohio State University College of Medicine

Office of Global Health Education

The Global Address

Letter from the Director



Daniel Sedmak, MD
Director, Office of Global Health Education
Executive Vice Dean, COM
Senior Associate VP for Health Sciences

Welcome to the inaugural edition of The Global Address!

We are pleased to bring you the latest global health news in the College of Medicine. Look for columns written by students covering their own global health experiences, updates on curriculum development, faculty activities, and new global health opportunities.

Last year, the Office of Global Health Education (OGHE) created a global health elective for fourth-year medical students and developed affiliation agreements with universities located in China, India and Taiwan. This year our international affiliation efforts will be on formalizing a clinical rotation site in Central and/or South America and sub-Saharan Africa.

2008 is going to be an exciting year in the life of our global health program. We are developing and implementing new global health courses, creating a Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization/Minor in global health, and working collaboratively with the other health sciences colleges to offer more team-based interdisciplinary learning opportunities. Your input and ideas are critical so please let us hear from you.

Wishing you a happy and healthy New Year.

Meet the Office



Cregg Ashcraft, MD
Associate Director

Cregg Ashcraft, MD supervises Med 4 Global Health Electives and manages the Latin American partnerships for the OGHE. He is also

helping to develop the new global health curriculum and will be teaching a new global health course in 2008.



Pam Potter
Associate Director, Administration

Ms. Potter is managing development of the global health curriculum and its implementation within the College of Medicine,

as well as a set of core international rotation sites for global health electives. She also provides oversight for the day-to-day operations of the OGHE.



Jessica Small
Program Coordinator

Ms. Small administers Med 4 Global Health Electives and is assisting with the global health curriculum development. She also administers the day-

to-day activities of the OGHE, including counseling students interested in international health opportunities.

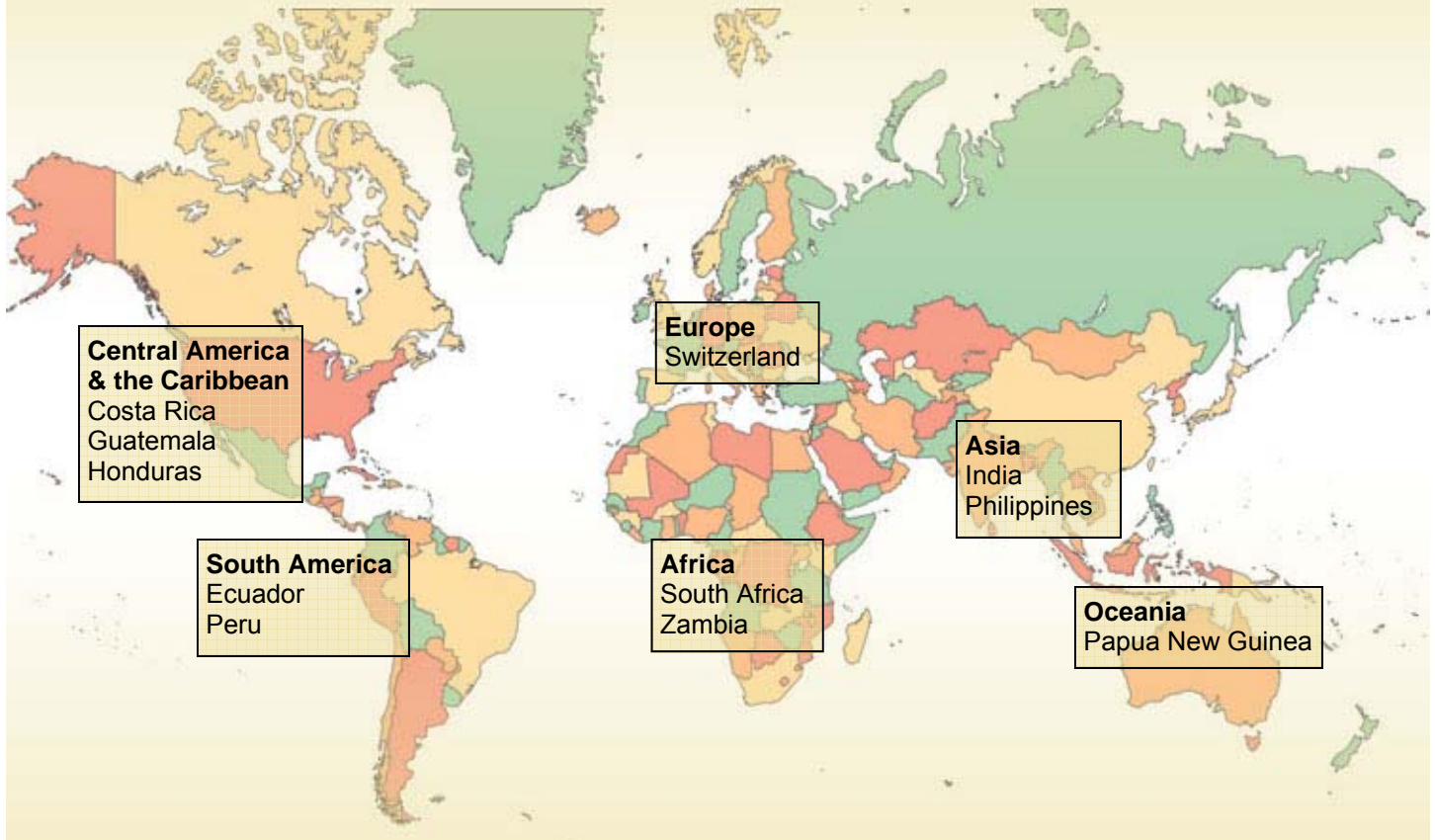
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Class of 2008: Globally Minded

About 40 Med 4s have signed up for Global Health Electives for this academic year. The map below depicts the locations where students are going throughout the year.



Curriculum Update

We are excited about the development of new global health courses and the creation of a Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization/Graduate Minor in global health. Cregg Ashcraft, MD, has created a course tentatively called, "Understanding Global Health" and Daniel Sedmak, MD, is developing "The Pathology of Global Disease." Both of these courses will be electives that can lead to the specialization designation.

A Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization involves two or more graduate programs outside the student's major program and requires a minimum of 14 hours in at least four courses. A Graduate Minor is the same number of hours but involves only one program outside the student's own. A completed Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization/Graduate Minor will appear on a student's permanent record. We anticipate having courses in the COM as well as from other colleges.

More information on this program will be in next quarter's newsletter.

How can you help?

If you are interested in pursuing the global health specialization designation, let us know and also let us know the days and times that would be most convenient for you to attend classes.

Send comments to Pam Potter at Pam-ela.Potter@osumc.edu.



AAMC Annual Meeting

The OGHE received national exposure when they were selected to be an exhibitor at the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) annual meeting in November 2007.

The OGHE exhibit featured global health opportunities at the OSU COM and student activities, such as R4WH. Joe Simonetti, Med 4 and CEO of R4WH, was on hand to discuss the organization and how other schools can get involved with the effort.



Global Health Calendar of Events

January

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

January 23

"Preparing for a Career in Global Health": Luchtime panel discussion featuring doctors with global health experience who will be sharing their expertise on everything from choosing a residency to the value of an MPH (hosted by the International Health Interest Group).

Time: 11:45am - 12:45pm
Location: 1063 Graves

January 25

"Taste of OSU" The IHIG will be taking part in this campus wide event sponsored by the OSU Office of International Affairs. Over 30 internationally themed clubs will prepare culinary selections from all over the world for students to sample while celebrating the cultural diversity of Ohio State.

Time: 4:00pm - 11:00pm
Location: RPAC

February

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	

February 2

"Date Auction": Professors and medical students alike will be auctioned off to the highest bidder to raise funds for students going abroad this summer (hosted by the International Health Interest Group).

Time: 8:00pm
Location: 160 Meiling

February 6

Lecture by Dr. Paul Farmer, Founding Director of Partners in Health: Register in advance by calling Kyle Tong at 614-509-2282 or by e-mail at currierlecture@columbusacademy.org.

Time: 7:30pm
Location: Columbus Academy Schoedinger Theatre

February 14

"Latino Immigration in Ohio from the Border to the Bedside": Grand Rounds presented by Cregg Ashcraft, MD.

Time: 7:30am - 8:30am
Location: Davis HLRI Auditorium

February 19

"Current Challenges in the Iraqi Health Care System": Lecture presented by Dr. Ahmad Al-Shamssie, a radiologist from Iraq working at Nationwide Children's Hospital for one year (hosted by the International Health Interest Group).

Time: TBD
Location: TBD

March

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

March 20

"Faculty Dodgeball Tournament": Students will have a chance to hurl a ball at their favorite professor while supporting international experiences for medical students this summer (hosted by the International Health Interest Group).

Time: TBD
Location: ARC

March TBD

"Global Issues at Home": Luchtime lecture highlighting problems faced by doctors working in Columbus (hosted by the International Health Interest Group).

Time: TBD
Location: TBD

my take by Abby Davids, Med 2

When I arrived in the Addis Ababa airport late one evening last June, I wasn't sure what to expect from my summer abroad. Fresh out of Med 1 and eager to apply my new medical knowledge to my chosen career path, global health, I had set up a two-month-long volunteer project at the AHOPE orphanage for children with HIV/AIDS in central Ethiopia. A staff member from the orphanage greeted me at the airport in broken English and whisked me away for a two hour jeep ride over bumpy dirt paths often crowded with more cows and goats than other vehicles. And thus began my love affair with Ethiopia, AHOPE, and the 83 children who were soon under my care for the summer.

My duties at the orphanage were varied. Along with AHOPE's nurse, I was to monitor the children's health. But with few resources at our disposal, we couldn't put up much of a fight

against the children's HIV or the opportunistic infections that plagued them. So we got creative, working on infection control procedures, giving each child a

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physical exam, creating medical charts for each child and documenting their illnesses, beefing up the diets of the malnourished children, and conducting Denver development tests on our younger kids.

Medicine aside, I also spent a great deal of time just playing with the children, getting to know them and making sure they each got lots of one-on-one attention.

Abush loved to ride AHOPE's rusty old bicycle; Beza loved to be tickled; Bekat loved to sing. When Bette came to us, profoundly malnourished and very sick with giardia, she just wanted to be held. For the next four weeks I rarely put her down, and when I had learned enough Amharic to know her name for me – "Addi" – was not, as I'd thought, a variation of my name, but rather the word for "Mommy," I knew for certain that part of me would be forever tied to this child and this place.

Living and working with the children at AHOPE had a greater effect on me than I'm sure I ever had on them or their overall health. I returned to the States changed – humbled, frustrated that I couldn't do more, but renewed in my passion to become a physician and return to Africa with much more knowledge and ability at my disposal.



experience > action

My ties to AHOPE remain strong, and I maintain regular email communication with the staff there, always checking up on Bette and the rest of "my" kids. I've also started a non-profit organization, Project HOPEFUL, with a woman I met in Ethiopia to raise awareness about international adoption of children with HIV/AIDS, educate prospective parents, and eventually provide grants to help offset the costs of adoption.

My summer in Ethiopia has certainly meant much more to me than a typical volunteer project, a line on a resume, or even a stepping-stone to a future career. It has become a part of who I am, in a very real sense; an experience that shifted the way I see the world and my place in it. I can't think of a better or more meaningful way to have spent my summer break.

If you have questions about volunteering abroad over the Med 1 summer, please contact any of the IHIG officers. If you would like to learn more about Ethiopia and AHOPE, please contact Abby directly at Abby.Davids@osumc.edu.

Global Health Day 2008

by Joe Simonetti

Ride for World Health's (R4WH) 3rd annual OSU Global Health Day is scheduled for May 19th. This event marks the arrival of the R4WH National Cycling Team in Columbus, approximately six weeks into its 3,700-mile cross-country journey. The day will start with a brief speech and presentation by several of the riders.



In addition to the morning convocation, R4WH will continue its unique Coast-To-Coast Lecture Series by hosting a keynote speaker from Doctors Without Borders/ Medecins Sans Frontieres, the beneficiary of the 2008 Ride. Events will take place on the plaza outside of University Hospital-Rhodes Hall, as well as in Meiling Hall where lunch will be provided.

For more information about R4WH and Global Health Day, e-mail Kel Vasileff at KVasileff@rideforworldhealth.org or visit the R4WH Web site at www.RideforWorldHealth.org.

Did you know...

The World Health Organization (WHO) recently published a photo essay of 2007's most significant health issues, which included:

- *Avian influenza and pandemic preparedness*
- *Outbreaks: Ebola and Marburg fevers*
- *Health action in crisis*
- *Maternal death rates falling too slowly*
- *Yellow fever initiative*
- *International Health Regulations*
- *Polio eradication progress*
- *Stop tuberculosis: bottom-line benefits*
- *Measles rates plunge, children gain*
- *HIV/AIDS estimates revised*

To see the essay in its entirety, visit www.who.int/features/2007/year_review/en/index.html.

Contact Us

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Is there someone you know that should be receiving this newsletter? Please let us know by sending an e-mail to Jessica Small at Jessica.Small@osumc.edu.

Pre-clinical Student Opportunities

- Med 1s interested in working with underserved or disadvantaged population groups can apply for the David E. Rogers Fellowship Program. The fellowship includes a stipend and supports a project between the first and second years of medical school. Applications for summer 2008 are due by March 21, 2008. More information is available at www.nyam.org/grants/rogers.shtml.
- Med 1s who are beginning or advanced level Spanish speakers can apply for a summer program in Ecuador through Interhealth South America. The program includes medical Spanish language instruction and interviewing and physical examination in Spanish. Program dates are June 22 - July 19, 2008. Interested students can view basic schedule information at www.InterhealthSouthAmerica.net or contact Don Wedemeyer, MD at dwedemeyer@pol.net or 813-425-2096.